

CITY OF LODI

COUNCIL COMMUNICATION

AGENDA TITLE: Special Olympics "Walk for The Gold" to be held October 13, 2001, at Lodi Lake

MEETING DATE: October 3, 2001

PREPARED BY: Michael E. Pretz, Fire Chief

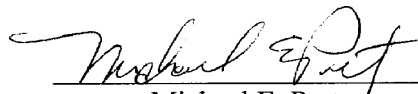
RECOMMENDED ACTION: Presentation

BACKGROUND INFORMATION: The mission of Special Olympics is to provide year-round sports training and athletic competition in a variety of Olympic-type sports for individuals with mental retardation by giving them continuing opportunities to develop physical fitness, demonstrate courage, experience joy and participate in a sharing of gifts, skills and friendship with their families, other Special Olympics athletes and the community.

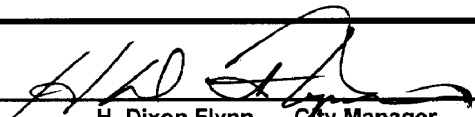
In Northern California more than 14,000 persons with mental retardation participate in local, area, and chapter-wide competitions. The programs are offered at no expense to all eligible athletes and are possible solely due to generous financial contributions and many very dedicated volunteers. All funds raised through Walk for The Gold support the training and competition of the Special Olympic athletes in the area the Walk takes place.

Walk for The Gold is a premiere event for Special Olympics Northern California. This non-competitive event brings together participants of all ages from throughout the community to promote friendship and fitness, while raising funds and awareness for Special Olympics. Participants are joined on the walk by Special Olympics athletes and have the opportunity to adopt a whole Special Olympics team to walk with. This years walk will be held at Lodi Lake wilderness area. The walk ~~is~~ four kilometers (4K) and starts at 10 a.m., October 13, 2001. Walkers raise money by asking friends, family, business associates, and co-workers to sponsor them. Funds are also raised through sponsorship and matching gifts.

FUNDING: None required.


Michael E. Pretz
Fire Chief

APPROVED: _____


H. Dixon Flynn -- City Manager